



# News Release

## Arizona Department of Public Safety

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Date: June 9, 2006

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### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **2006 Swiftwater Water Rescue Rodeo**

**Saturday, June 10, 2006**

The Arizona Department of Public Safety Aviation Division in conjunction with the Arizona Hiking Shack will be sponsoring the Fourth Annual Swiftwater Rescue Rodeo.

**Date/Time:** Saturday June 10, 2006 starting at 8:00 AM.

**Location:** The Central Arizona Project Canal, approximately one mile north of Happy Valley Road.

(You can access the area by traveling north on the frontage road from Happy Valley and enter on the north side of the canal then follow the markers.)

This event will bring teams from across Arizona to participate and compete in Swiftwater Rescue Rodeo scenarios. Each team will consist of six members and they will complete numerous rescue scenarios for which they are graded and scored. These scenarios will include boat handling, swimming, rope throw bags, technical rope systems and an actual scenario.

There will be trophies and prizes awarded to the winning teams. The City of Mesa Fire Department has won this event for the last two years.

In 2005, there were 13 deaths in Arizona as a direct result of flooding or moving water. Numerous people were rescued from the conditions that will be demonstrated in the scenarios. Most of the teams that will compete have had to perform actual swiftwater rescues. A swiftwater rescue is probably one of the most dangerous rescues that a team can be called upon to perform.

If any of the media would like to participate as a victim for any of the scenarios, they are invited to assist. This will be a great opportunity to meet, interview the teams and understand the many safety concerns and why the tactics used have been employed.